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belong the domination." The German-Americans are to shape our American spirit. Thus, our author resents Zangwill's symbolism of the melting pot, because he says that while the German becomes an American politically when he takes the oath of allegiance, it is only politically; he declines to allow his German personality, character, or language to be obliterated "according to the formula of a factory-made national type." Any effort to compel the German to abandon his language, his customs, his national individuality will in the course of time result, he thinks, in terrible punishment for those who attempt it.

All of this is gravely serious reading in midsummer, 1915, particularly as in these addresses of Mr. Goebel there is not one line, nor even a word, to show that there is any American political or social institution, or custom, or mode of life that appeals to him as worth while. If he sets any store by any American ideals, he carefully conceals his feeling; first and last, his book is a plea for the propagation of German idealism and standards in our American life. His hope and ambition are that the "American people of the future will be filled with German ideals." This was certainly not the attitude of Carl Schurz and the men of '48, of whose record and history Mr. Goebel is so proud. And what would Mr. Goebel say if each group of foreign-born citizens should interpret its history as a mandate to fill the American people of the future with its ideals? Fortunately, the native Americans are likely to have something to say about this plan to force the superior German virtues down their throats. At any rate, it is perhaps well that the war has come to make Americans restudy the relationship of our foreign-born groups to our ideals and to our body politic.

OSWALD GARRISON VILLARD

The American year book. A record of events and progress, 1914. Edited by Francis G. Wickware, B.A., B.Sc., with coöperation of a supervisory board representing national learned societies. (New York and London: D. Appleton and Company, 1915. 862 p. \$3.00)

This fifth issue of the year book is better arranged and more inclusive in its scope than any previous issue. The purpose of the work is well stated in the preface: it "appeals first of all to students in all fields, who wish a record of progress, not only in their own, but in other departments of human endeavor. It is intended, also, as a handbook for busy men, editors, contributors, professional men, teachers, scientific workers, engineers, practical and business men, who wish to verify or confirm points that arise in their minds."

The material is arranged in thirty-three heads or chapters accompanied in many cases by bibliographies and tables of statistics necessary

to bring out the principal facts in the subjects discussed. Of the eight hundred closely packed pages of fact and figure, one-fourth of the total is devoted to national and international political life. About one-half of the work is devoted to progress of the nation in the industrial field and to the advances in all of the departments of the theoretical and applied natural sciences. Something less than one hundred pages is made to cover the large fields of religion and education. An excellent index, carefully prepared with a view to actual use for the busy man, is not the least of the attractive features of the work.

Established in 1910 by conferences among members of the various national learned societies, the *American year book* has grown from year to year to be what it has come to be, the indispensable handbook of the scientist and of the business and professional man. One feature especially commends itself to the readers; there is as little as possible of the stereotyped in its makeup. Each contributor and the general management welcome criticism and are open to suggestion for improvement. This is a manual in the process of arriving at its normal growth and every vital phase of national life may have its appropriate place in its pages.

ORIN G. LIBBY

The state. Its history and development viewed sociologically. By Franz Oppenheimer, M.D., Ph.D., privat docent of political sciences, University of Berlin. Authorized translation by John M. Gitterman, Ph.D., LL.B. (Indianapolis: The Bobbs-Merrill Company, 1914. 302 p. \$1.25 net)

Following largely the theories and data presented by Gumplowicz and Ratzel, the author of this volume maintains that the right to hold more land than one can properly work through his own efforts and the efforts of his family, can exist only through that form of political control which is known as the state. He dismisses at the outset all known and accepted doctrines of public law, claiming that none of these furnish an explanation of the genesis and purpose of the state. All previous theories are condemned as class theories and it is confidently asserted that sociology alone can furnish the cause and explanation of the state.

A point of view which runs throughout the volume and which in fact is its chief message is that society is divided into two clearly defined groups, a ruling and property owning class, and a proletariat without property; or, in other words, the latter who can earn their living by their own labor and the former who live on the efforts and production of this class, forcing others by political means to render services and fees.

By a mathematical calculation which the author regards as conclusive, it is maintained that the class state can rise only where all fertile acreage